

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/713,138	KESLER, SCOTT B.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Hiep Nguyen	2816	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 05-09-05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7,10-18 and 21-27.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 13 November 2003 and 09 May 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>11-13-03</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                               | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

  
**TUAN T. LAM**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and /or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST submit no later than the payment of the issued fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with attorney Gordon J. Lewis (Reg. No. 28,735).

The following changes have been made to the subject application:

#### ***In the claims***

Cancel claim 20.

IN CLAIM 1; delete "the blinding timer discharge current source while" on line 20; replace " the input signal is being charged" on line 21 with -- the input signal being charged--.

IN CLAIM 17; delete "and" on line 24; replace " a blinding discharge current source coupled to the signal input terminal of the first transistor, wherein the discharge current source is configured to reduce an associated current to substantially reduce its leakage current when the current source is off" on lines 25-28 with -- a switch coupled across the capacitor; and a blinding timer discharge current source coupled to the signal input terminal of the transistor, wherein the blinding timer discharge current source is configured to substantially reduce its leakage current when the switch is off--.

#### ***Reason for Allowance***

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record (US Pat. 4,456,840) fails to teach or fairly suggest a comparator circuit comprising a blinding timer discharge current source ( Q24, Q107, Q108 in figure 6) configured to limit current drawn by a capacitor (C1) coupled to the input signal terminal being charged when transistor (Q24) is turned on, wherein the blinding timer discharge current source is coupled across the capacitor as called for in claim 1; a method of coupling a blinding timer discharge

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current source across a capacitor operatively coupled to the comparator signal input and configuring said blinding timer discharge current to limit current drawn thereby while said capacitor is being charged as called for in claim 10; a switch coupled across the capacitor; and a blinding discharge current source coupled to the signal input terminal of the transistor, wherein the blinding timer discharge current source is configured to substantially reduce its leakage current when the switch is off as called for in claim 17; the signal input terminal includes an associated leakage current compensation circuit as called for in claim 21. Therefore, claims 1-7, 10-18 and 21-27 are presently allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


### *Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hiep Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1752. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7:30am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Callahan can be reached on (571) 272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hiep Nguyen

05-02-05 

TUAN T. LAM  
PRIMARY EXAMINER